

NEWARK MINUTE MEN

THE PETITION OF CAPT. JAMES WHEELER'S COMPANY TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

The following petition is copied from the original in the possession of the New Jersey Historical Society. Although the paper itself is not dated, the facts set forth therein make it possible to fix the date as some time in March or April, 1776. The Company was evidently raised pursuant to an "Ordinance for the Further Regulation of the Militia Forces of this Colony," adopted by the Provincial Congress of New Jersey October 28, 1775. ("Minutes of the Provincial Congress and the Council of Safety of the State of New Jersey," 1879, p. 238; Stryker's "Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War," 1872, p. 133). Four months later, March 2, 1776, the Congress adopted an "Ordinance for Incorporating the Minute Men lately Raised in this Colony into the Body of the Militia; and for Further Regulating said Militia," owing to the fact that "large numbers of said minute men having entered into the Continental Service, the said companies and battalions are greatly reduced, and in no condition to answer the design of their institution." ("Minutes of the Provincial Congress," pp. 307, 401, and 436; Stryker, p. 334). This petition, signed shortly after the adoption of the latter Ordinance, contains some names not included in Stryker's "Official Register."

To the honorable the Members of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety for the Province of New Jersey —

the Petition of Capt. James Wheeler, Officers & Privates of his Company of Minute Men—

humbly sheweth—

That your Petitioners in obedience to the Resolutions of your honorable House, did at a considerable Expence equip themselves as a minute Company being completely armed and accoutred, and also went to the Expence of putting themselves in a uniform of Dress, and continued as a minute

Company for upwards of four Months, and were always ready and willing to do any Duty that was imposed on them, and were still desirous of continuing in that Capacity, but being informed that the Minute Companies by a Resolution of the Congress are to be dissolved—do now humbly beg that you will take into Consideration the Service & Expence your Petitioners have been at—and establish them as a Company of Grenadiers to the North Battalion in this Township, and allow the officers to retain the Men that enlisted as minute Men under them & who are still desirous of continuing together—If you should decline granting this request it would be a means of breaking up a Company who has acquired Reputation as a well regulated & disciplined Body— Your Petitioners are emboldened to make this Petition from a Sense, that the Integrity and Justice of this House will lead them to deal with honor & equity to every set of Men under their Care and Jurisdiction—

James Wheeler Capt.
 Isaac Plume 1 Lieut.
 Samuel Huntington 2 Lieut.
 John Alling. 3 Lieut.
 Samuel Alling Jun.
 John Carmin
 Jonas Crane
 Nathaniel Beach
 Abiel Canfield
 Caleb Wheeler
 Samuel Curry
 Isaac Alling
 Thomas Curry
 William Burnet Junr.
 Daniel Baldwin
 John Ward
 Israel Beach
 Daniel Turner
 Aaron young
 Jonas young
 Joshua Bruen

Elijah Crane Junr.
 Daniel Tichner
 Eleazer Brown
 Elisha Boardman
 Nathaniel Andrews
 David Banks
 Daniel Brown
 Pruden Alling
 Stephen Plum
 Justin Baldwin
 Isaac Crane
 Jonas Hazen(?)
 Phineas Crane
 Thomas Knap
 Jehiel Lockwood
 Uziel Sayre
 Robert Nicholes
 Jeremiah Brown
 Stephen Boukswin
 John F. Boukswin
 John Tenen Crane

Stephen young	Benjamin Co Jr.
David Erwin	Aaron Ogden
Aaron Roberts	William Arrel
James green	Ichabod Burnet
Samuel Crane Jun.	Joseph Baldwin 3
Jabez Ward	Coert Longstreet
Daniel young	David Sandford
Moses Baldwin	Johnson Tuttle
Lewis Baldwin	David Crane Jun.

The following genealogical data and further military service of most of the above men is taken from the records of this Society as compiled from various sources, (parenthetical notes in *italics* refer to printed genealogies):

ALLING, ISAAC, (s. John and Martha (Crane) Alling), b. Newark, 1749, d. Newark, Aug. 29, 1809; m. 1st, Mary Clisbie, b. 1749, d. Mar. 20, 1792; m. 2nd, Joanna Conger, d. 1844. (*Alling-Allen*, p. 61.)

ALLING, JOHN, (s. John and Martha (Crane) Alling), b. Newark, Apr. 2, 1746, d. Newark, Dec. 2, 1795; m. Abigail, (dg. Stephen and Joanna (Crane) Young). A monument to his memory is in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Newark. He also served as 2nd Lieut. Essex County Militia, and in Baldwin's Artificers, Continental Army. (*Alling-Allen*, p. 60.)

ALLING, PATER, (s. Dea. Samuel and Abigail (Prudden) Alling), b. Newark, d. Morristown; m. Mary, d. Aug. 2, 1807, aged 53 yrs., 8 mos., bur. Hanover, Morris Co. He also served as private, Morris County Militia. (*Alling-Allen*, p. 59.)

ALLING, SAMUEL, JR., (s. Capt. Joseph and Abigail); m. Prussia, (d. Ezekiel and Mary (Jones) Ball), b. July 17, 1790, d. Feb. 1, 1813. (*Alling-Allen*, p. 60.) (Note: This service has been claimed for Dea. Samuel Alling, b. 1698, d. 1793.)

BALDWIN, DANIEL, also served as private, Essex County Militia.

BALDWIN (BOULBWIN), JOHN P., b. Newark, Dec. 3, 1762, d. Newark, Apr. 19, 1844; m. Mary, (dg. Joseph and Patience (Crane) Crane). He also served as private, New Jersey Militia. (*Crane*, Vol. 2, p. 324.)

BALDWIN, JOSEPH, 3rd. It is claimed that his correct name was Zophar Baldwin, (s. David and Eunice (Dod) Baldwin), b. Jan. 19, 1740; d. Bloomfield, Feb. 4, 1800; m. Rebekah Ward, d. Sept. 1, 1801, aged 56 yrs. He also served as private, Essex County Militia. (*Dodd, p. 43; Baldwin, p. 516.*)

BALDWIN, LEWIS, (s. Amos and Mary (Lyon) Baldwin), b. Oct. 22, 1744; d. Oct. 23, 1780; res. Orange; m. Martha Williams, b. Apr. 8, 1743; d. Jan. 26, 1806. He also served as private, Capt. Lyon's Co., Essex Co. Militia. (*Baldwin, p. 524; Lyon, Vol. 2, p. 238.*)

BALDWIN, MOSES, (s. Jonas and Elizabeth (Thompson) Baldwin), b. Feb. 21, 1757; d. June 6, 1831, bur. First Presbyterian Church Yard, Newark; m. Sarah Johnson, b. June 5, 1763; d. Feb. 29, 1848. He also served as private Essex Co. Militia. (*Baldwin, p. 416.*)

BALDWIN (BOULOWIN), STEPHEN, (s. Stephen and Rebecca (Ball) Baldwin), d. Feb. 1, 1816, in 74th yr. He also served as private, Essex Co. Militia. (*Baldwin, p. 317.*)

BANKS, DAVID, (s. James and Mary (Ogden) Banks), b. Newark, May 14, 1743; d. Newark, Oct. 20, 1812; m. 1st, Martha, d. Oct. 29, 1767, in 23d yr., bur. Old Newark Cemetery; m. 2nd, Susan Crane, widow of John Cham, b. June 7, 1746; d. Jan. 11, 1821. He also served as Captain and Quartermaster, N. J. Militia. (*Ogden, p. 70.*)

BEACH, ISRAEL. One of this name d. 1817; m. 1781, Mary Pool, b. 1756; d. 1810.

BEACH, NATHANIEL, (s. Joseph and Eunice (Baldwin) Beach), b. Oct. 13, 1734; d. May 4, 1808; m. Sarah, b. Jan. 1757; d. Apr. 8, 1834. He also served as private, Capt. Abraham Lyon's Company, 2nd Reg't, Essex Co. Militia. (*Baldwin, p. 306.*)

BOUDINOT, ELISHA, (s. Elias and Catherine (Williams) Boudinot), b. Philadelphia, Pa., 1742; d. Newark, Oct. 17, 1810; m. Oct. 14, 1778, Catherine Smith, b. Dec. 6, 1749; d. Aug. 30, 1779. Served as Secretary to the Council of Safety of New Jersey, 1777; also Committee of Correspondence of Essex Co., N. J.

BROWN, DANIEL, (s. Daniel and Susanna), b. Newark, Sept.

CRANE, ELIJAH, JR., b. 1796. He also served as private, Essex County Militia. His name appears on the Pennsylvania Pension Roll, 1833. He was probably the son of Elijah and Rachel (Beach) Crane. (*Crane, Vol. 2, p. 325.*)

CRANE, ISAAC, (s. Lewis and Mary (Burr) Crane), b. 1746, d. Oct. 29, 1815; m. Joanna, d. Dec. 9, 1822, aged 72 yrs. He also served as private, Capt. Marsh's Light Horse, Essex County Militia. (*Crane, Vol. 2, p. 349.*)

CRANE, JONAS, (s. John and Rebecca), b. 1747, he was mortally wounded near Fort Delancy, the enemy's post on Newark Bay, and died Apr. 4, 1782, bur. Old Newark Cemetery; m. Sarah Beach, d. Sept. 8, 1783, aged 37 yrs. He also served as private, Essex County Militia. (*Crane, Vol. 2, p. 321.*)

CRANE, PHEBEA, (s. Joseph and Patience), b. Newark, Feb. 6, 1755, d. Montclair, Nov. 14, 1840; m. Abigail Baldwin. He also served as private, 2nd Regiment, Essex County Militia. (*Crane, Vol. 2, p. 324.*)

CURRY, SAMUEL, also served as private, Essex County Militia. One of this name was placed on the Pennsylvania Pension Roll in 1833, aged 72 yrs. Another died Mar. 20, 1768, in 44th yr., and was buried in the Old Newark Cemetery.

EWING, DAVID, b. Newark, 1758, d. Westville, 1831; m. 1780, Catherine Munson, b. 1761. He also served as Surgeon's Mate, N. J. Militia, and as Surgeon, Continental Army.

GREEN, JAMES, also served as private, Essex County Militia. One of this name died Oct. 10, 1797, in 64th yr., and was buried in the Old Newark Cemetery.

HARRISON (HABASON), JONAS, (s. Moses and Abigail (Foster) Harrison), d. Dec. 1798, wife d. June 11, 1799.

HUNTINGTON, SAMUEL, d. March 6, 1818, in 80th yr.; m. Margaret, d. Dec. 23, 1808, aged 68 yrs.; both buried in First Presbyterian Church Yard, Newark. He also served as Captain, Essex County Militia.

KNAFF, THOMAS, also served as Fifer, Essex County Militia.

LOCKWOOD, JEREMIAH, also served as private, Essex County Militia.

NICHOLS (NICHOLES), ROBERT, (s. Humphrey), b. Newark,